

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 CPR-01

A-01 OMB-01 /067 W

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P 301259Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4638

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL UDORN

13TH AF CC CLARK AFB

CINCPAC

13TH ADVON CC UDORN

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI UDORN

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 4643

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, LA

SUBJ: PROTEST NOTE DELIVERED TO LAO FOREIGN MINISTRY

1. AT 1245 HOURS APRIL 30 EMBOFF DELIVERED FOLLOWING
DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO LAO FOREIGN MINISTRY:

2. QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN PRESENTS
ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PRO-
VISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF LAOS AND HAS THE
HONOR TO BRING THE FOLLOWING FACTS TO THE MINISTRY'S AT-
TENTION:

3. AT APPROXIMATELY 0200 HOURS ON SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1975,
THE RESIDENTIAL COMPOUND NEAR THAT LUANG (KNOWN AS SILVER
CITY), THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPOUND NEXT DOOR, AND THE
FORMER MAIN OFFICES AND LIBRARY OF THE UNITED STATES
INFORMATION SERVICE WERE ILLEGALLY ENTERED AND OCCUPIED
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BY ARMED DEMONSTRATORS AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT POLICE.

ALL THREE AREAS ARE, OF COURSE, INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE EMBASSY. SILVER CITY HOUSES THE STAFF OF THE EMBASSY AND CONTAINS THE EMBASSY'S MEDICAL UNIT. BOTH PROPERTIES -- SILVER CITY AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPOUND -- ARE OWNED OUTRIGHT BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

4. EMBASSY EMPLOYEES LIVING AT SILVER CITY WERE AROUSED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT FROM THEIR SLEEP AND HARASSED BY ARMED DEMONSTRATORS AND SOLDIERS. AT LEAST ONE AMERICAN WAS THREATENED WITH GUNS UNLESS HE ALLOWED ENTRANCE INTO HIS HOUSE. AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPOUND, EMBASSY OFFICIALS WERE ALSO THREATENED WITH GUNS. DURING THE DAY THE AMERICANS LIVING AT SILVER CITY EVACUATED THEIR HOMES IN FEAR OF THE PERSONAL SAFETY. ARMED DEMONSTRATORS ENTERED THEIR HOUSES AND INSISTED ON VERIFYING EVERYTHING THAT THEY PACKED. ACCESS INTO AND OUT OF THE COMPOUND WAS REGULARLY INTERFERRED WITH, AND IN THE EVENING ACTUALLY PROHIBITED.

5. AS THE MINISTRY IS AWARE, EMBASSY OFFICIALS DISCUSSED THIS EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AND PLAN, AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT WE HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES THAT THE SITUATION WOULD BE RAPIDLY SETTLED. AS OF MID-DAY MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1975, NOTHING HAS HAPPENED.

6. THE EMBASSY MUST REGISTER THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S SERIOUS CONCERN REGARDING THESE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. AS EXPRESSED IN EARLIER NOTES, THIS EMBASSY HAS EXPERIENCED OVER RECENT WEEKS A SERIES OF PROVOCATIONS, MANY OF WHICH HAVE AT THE VERY LEAST BEEN ACQUIESCED IN BY THE POLICE. SINCE THE JOINT POLICE COME UNDER THE ORDERS OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION, A FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION ARISES REGARDING THE POLICY OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TOWARDS THIS EMBASSY. IN SIMPLEST TERMS, WHAT IS INVOLVED IS THIS EMBASSY'S ABILITY TO OPERATE AS A DIPLOMATIC MISSION. THIS WEEKEND'S ACTIONS INFRINGE IN THE MOST DIRECT WAY WITH ALL DIPLOMATIC CUSTOMS AND PRIVILEGES AND ARE CONTRARY TO THE ASSURANCES EARLIER

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GIVEN BY THE MINISTRY THAT IT FULLY SUPPORTS THE PROVISIONS OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION.

7. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE EMBASSY MUST REQUEST THAT THE MINISTRY INSURE THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL DEMONSTRATORS AND POLICEMENT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPOUND, SILVER CITY, AND THE USIS PREMISES AS WELL AS FREEDOM TO OPERATE THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE EMBASSY ACCORDING

TO ACCEPTED DIPLO_O"<.,RR
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